**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A routing device comprising:

a dynamic routing module, operable to be executed at a particular time;

a configuration manager, coupled to a second routing device, operable to store configuration information associated with operational characteristics of a second dynamic routing module associated with the second routing device; and

a network information module, operable to store routing information from the second routing device; and

a communication module, operable to transmit a hitless restart event based upon an event associated with said execution of said dynamic routing module, said hitless restart event signaling network enabled devices to continue forwarding packets to a cluster of network enabled devices, said routing device configured to route information for the cluster;

wherein said dynamic routing module is operable to execute ~~executed~~ upon an indication that the second dynamic routing module is no longer operating;

wherein said dynamic routing module is configured to operate according to said configuration information.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The routing device of claim 1 wherein said dynamic routing module implements an OSPF routing protocol.

4. (Original) The routing device of claim 1 wherein said particular time is associated with a non-functioning state of the second dynamic routing module.

5. (Original) The routing device of claim 1 wherein said particular time is associated with a predetermined time.

6. (Original) The routing device of claim 1 wherein said particular time is associated with a condition associated with network traffic.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The routing device of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said stored configuration information is stored in a device different from said routing device.

9. (Original) The routing device of claim 1, wherein another device transmits a hitless restart upon an event associated with said execution of said dynamic routing module.

10. (Original) The routing device of claim 1, further comprising a communications module operable to receive a reply from another routing device associated with the receipt of a hitless restart.

11. (Currently Amended) A routing device comprising:

a means for dynamically routing datagrams, operable to be executed at a particular time;

a means for configuring said means for dynamically routing, coupled to a second routing device, operable to store configuration information associated with operational characteristics of a second means for dynamically routing datagrams associated with the second routing device; and

means for storing network information, operable to store routing information from the second routing device; and

means for transmitting a hitless restart based upon an event associated with said execution of said means for dynamic routing, said hitless restart event signaling network enabled devices to continue forwarding packets to a cluster of network enabled devices, said routing device configured to route information for the cluster;

wherein said means for dynamically routing is executed upon an indication that the second means for dynamically routing is no longer operating;

wherein said means for configuring configures said means for dynamically routing according to said configuration information.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) The routing device of claim 11 wherein said means for dynamic routing implements an OSPF routing protocol.

14. (Original) The routing device of claim 11 wherein said particular time is associated with a non-functioning state of the second means for dynamic routing.

15. (Original) The routing device of claim 11 wherein said particular time is associated with a predetermined time.

16. (Original) The routing device of claim 11 wherein said particular time is associated with a condition associated with network traffic.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) The routing device of claim 11, wherein at least a portion of said stored configuration information is stored in a device different from said routing device.

19. (Original) The routing device of claim 11, wherein another device transmits a hitless restart event upon an event associated with said execution of said means for dynamic routing.

20. (Original) The routing device of claim 11, further comprising a means for communication operable to receive a reply from another routing device associated with the receipt of a hitless restart event.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~A routing device comprising:~~

a program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine ~~at a particular time~~ to perform a method ~~for routing datagrams~~, the method comprising:

~~dynamically routing datagrams;~~

~~a configuration manager operable to configure said method for routing datagrams, coupled to a second routing device, operable to store configuration information associated with operational characteristics of a second means for dynamically routing datagrams associated with the second routing device; and~~

~~a network information module, operable to store routing information from the second routing device;~~

~~wherein said method for routing is executed by said routing device upon an indication that the second means for dynamically routing is no longer operating;~~

~~wherein said configuration manager configures said method for routing according to said configuration information.~~

storing configuration information associated with operational characteristics of a second dynamic routing module associated with a second routing device;

storing routing information from the second routing device;

configuring said first routing device according to said configuration information;

upon an indication that the second dynamic routing device is no longer operating,

selectively routing datagrams through said first routing device; and

transmitting a hitless restart event, said hitless restart event signaling network enabled devices to continue forwarding packets to a cluster of network enabled devices, said routing device configured to route information for the cluster.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Original) The routing device of claim 21 wherein said method for routing implements an OSPF routing protocol.

24. (Original) The routing device of claim 21 wherein said particular time is associated with a non-functioning state of the second means for dynamic routing.

25. (Original) The routing device of claim 21 wherein said particular time is associated with a predetermined time.

26. (Original) The routing device of claim 21 wherein said particular time is associated with a condition associated with network traffic.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Original) The routing device of claim 21, wherein at least a portion of said stored configuration information is stored in a device different from said routing device.

29. (Original) The routing device of claim 21, wherein another device transmits a hitless restart event upon an event associated with said execution of said method for routing.

30. (Original) The routing device of claim 21, further comprising a means for communication operable to receive a reply from another routing device, the reply associated with the receipt of a hitless restart event by the another routing device.

31-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended) A method of routing datagrams through a first routing device in a network, the method comprising:

storing configuration information associated with operational characteristics of a second dynamic routing module associated with a second routing device;

storing routing information from the second routing device;

configuring said first routing device according to said configuration information;

upon an indication that the second dynamic routing device is no longer functioning,

selectively routing datagrams through said first routing device ~~at a particular time~~; and

transmitting a hitless restart event, said hitless restart event signaling network enabled devices to continue forwarding packets to a cluster of network enabled devices, said routing device configured to route information for the cluster;

wherein said step of selectively routing is performed upon an indication that the second dynamic routing device is no longer operating;.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Original) The method of claim 35 wherein said step of selectively routing is performed under an OSPF routing protocol.

38. (Original) The method of claim 35 wherein said particular time is associated with a non-functioning state of the second dynamic routing module.

39. (Original) The method of claim 35 wherein said particular time is associated with a predetermined time.

40. (Original) The method of claim 35 wherein said particular time is associated with a condition associated with network traffic.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein said step of storing configuration information is performed in a device different from said first routing device.

43-44. (Cancelled)